

CLAIMS

1. A content transmitting apparatus which transmits content that is digital copyrighted work including a plurality of content blocks, the apparatus comprising

5 a synchronous transmitting unit operable to repeat transmitting, for each of the plurality of content blocks, in parallel with said each of the content blocks, copy control information indicating copy permission of the content, content identification information identifying the content, and content status information
10 indicating status of said each of the content blocks in the overall content.

2. The content transmitting apparatus according to Claim 1, further comprising

15 a judging unit operable to judge whether or not content to be transmitted is copy associated with copy permission number,

wherein in the case where the content to be transmitted is judged as the copy associated with the copy permission number by said judging unit, said synchronous transmitting unit transmits, for
20 each of the plurality of content blocks, in parallel with said each of the content blocks, the copy control information, the content identification information and the content status information, and in the case where the content to be transmitted is judged as not the copy associated with the copy permission number, said synchronous
25 transmitting unit transmits, for each of the plurality of content blocks, in parallel with said each of the plurality of content blocks, the copy control information and the content identification information.

30 3. The content transmitting apparatus according to Claim 1, further comprising

a read-out unit operable to repeatedly read out, from a

recording medium, for each of the plurality of content blocks, the corresponding content block, the corresponding copy control information, the corresponding content identification information and the corresponding content status information,

5 wherein said synchronous transmitting unit transmits the content block, the copy control information, the content identification information and the content status information that have been read out by said read-out unit.

10 4. The content transmitting apparatus according to Claim 3, further comprising

a validity flag generating unit operable to generate a validity flag indicating whether or not the content identification information read out from the recording medium is valid data,

15 wherein said synchronous transmitting unit transmits the content identification information accompanied by the validity flag.

5. The content transmitting apparatus according to Claim 4,

20 wherein said validity flag generating unit judges whether or not read-out mode of the recording medium used by said read-out unit is special reproduction, and in the case where the read-out mode is the special reproduction, said validity flag generating unit generates a validity flag indicating that the content identification information is invalid.

25 6. The content transmitting apparatus according to Claim 4,

wherein the content identification information includes a data sequence made of a plurality of data, and

30 said validity flag generating unit judges whether or not the data sequence has been completely read out from the recording medium by said read-out unit, and generates the validity flag based on the result.

7. The content transmitting apparatus according to Claim 6,
wherein the plurality of data forming the content
identification information include numbers indicating an order for
5 each data, and

said validity flag generating unit checks continuity of the
numbers included in the plurality of data, and in the case where the
continuity is confirmed, said validity flag generating unit judges that
the plurality of data have been completely read out, and generates
10 a validity flag indicating that the content identification information
is valid.

8. The content transmitting apparatus according to Claim 4,
wherein in the case where the validity flag indicating that the
15 content identification information is invalid is generated, said
validity flag generating unit makes the content identification
information null data.

9. The content transmitting apparatus according to Claim 1,
20 wherein the content status information indicates one of "head
part", "central part" and "end part" of the content.

10. The content transmitting apparatus according to Claim 1,
wherein the copy control information, the content
25 identification information and the content status information are
transmitted as a packet, and

said synchronous transmitting unit transmits, included in the
packet, a content identification information flag indicating whether
the content identification information should be divided into two
30 packets and transmitted or the content identification information
should be compressed and transmitted as one packet.

11. A content transmitting method for transmitting content which is digital copyrighted work including a plurality of content blocks, the method comprising:

repeating transmitting, for each of the content blocks, in parallel with said each of the content blocks, copy control information indicating copy permission of the content, content identification information identifying the content, and content status information indicating status of said each of the content blocks in the overall content.

12. A program for transmitting content which is digital copyrighted work including a plurality of content blocks, and

causing a computer to execute the repeating transmitting comprised in the content transmitting method according to Claim

11.

13. A content receiving apparatus which receives, from outside, content that is digital copyrighted work including a plurality of content blocks, and records the content into a recording medium,

wherein the plurality of content blocks are sequentially transmitted, each of said content blocks being accompanied by the copy control information indicating copy permission of the content, the content identification information identifying the content, and the content status information indicating status of said each of the content blocks in the overall content, and

the content receiving apparatus comprises:

a receiving unit operable to receive said each of the content blocks, the copy control information, the content identification information and the content status information; and

a recording unit operable to record the content indicated by the content identification information into the recording medium based on the content status information within a range that does not

exceed the copy permission number, in the case where the copy control information indicates that the copy permission number is limited.

5 14. The content receiving apparatus according to Claim 13, further comprising:

a memory unit operable to memorize copy number table that has recorded a cumulative number that has been acquired after the receiving unit received, for each of the content identification
10 information, the content indicated by the content identification information, and recorded into the recording medium by the recording unit, and

said recording unit (i) refers to the copy number table memorized by said memory unit, (ii) reads out the cumulative
15 number corresponding to the content identification information received by said receiving unit, and (iii) judges whether or not the read-out cumulative number does not exceed the copy permission number indicated by the copy control information received by said receiving unit, and in the case where the read-out cumulative
20 number does not exceed the copy permission number, said recording unit records the content into the recording medium.

15. The content receiving apparatus according to Claim 14,

wherein said recording unit updates the cumulative number to
25 be incremented by one, said cumulative number corresponding to the content identification information memorized by said memory unit, when confirming that the overall content is received, and recorded into the recording medium, based on the content status information.

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16. The content receiving apparatus according to Claim 15, wherein said recording unit updates the cumulative number

to be incremented only by one in the case where said recording unit has been able to confirm the status has been transferred in the order of "head part", to "central part" and to "end part", said status being in the overall content indicated by the content status information
5 corresponding to said each of the plurality of content blocks.

17. The content receiving apparatus according to Claim 15,
wherein said recording unit updates the cumulative number to be incremented only by one, in addition to the confirmation by the
10 content status information, in the case where all of the content identification information corresponding to said each of the plurality of content blocks is identical.

18. The content receiving apparatus according to Claim 13,
15 wherein the content identification information is accompanied by a validity flag indicating whether or not the content identification information is valid data, and

the recording unit checks the validity flag, and in the case where the result indicates that the content identification information is invalid, the recording unit records the content into the recording
20 medium.

19. A content receiving method for receiving, from outside, content that is digital copyrighted work including a plurality of
25 content blocks, and recording the content into a recording medium,

wherein the plurality of content blocks are sequentially transmitted, each of said content blocks being accompanied by the copy control information indicating copy permission of the content, the content identification information identifying the content, and
30 the content status information indicating status of said each of the content blocks in the overall content, and

the content receiving method comprises:

receiving said each of the content blocks, the copy control information, the content identification information and the content status information; and

recording the content indicated by the content identification information into the recording medium based on the content status information within the range that does not exceed the copy permission number, in the case where the copy control information indicates that the copy permission number is limited.

20. A program for a content receiving apparatus which receives, from outside, content that is digital copyrighted work including a plurality of content blocks, and records the content in a recording medium, and

the program causing a computer to execute the steps of receiving and recording comprised in the content receiving method according to Claim 19.